

Message Text

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54

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00

AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 /239 R

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APPROVED BY EB/OT/TA:WBARRACLOUGH

STR:RMATTHEISEN

COMMERCE:WKRIST

EUR/RPE:RMEIMA

AGRICULTURE:RPLANK

TREASURY:BBENTON

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P 281808Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EC, ETRD, EFTA

SUBJECT: EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: EC BRUSSELS 6740; EC BRUSSELS 6832

1. FOR USEC: MISSION SHOULD DISCUSS SUBJECT ISSUE AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL WITH EC COMMISSION ASAP MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. OUR PROPOSAL FOR GATT WORKING PARTY ON RULES OF ORIGIN WAS AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID FRONTAL ATTACK ON EC/EFTA AGREEMENTS BY CONCLUDING ARTICLE XXIV EXAMINATIONS RAPIDLY (AS PARTIES WISHED TO DO) AND CONFINING FURTHER GAT CONSIDERATION AT THIS TIME TO ONE ASPECT OF AGREEMENTS WHICH BOTH CAUSES US CONCERN AND CAN BE ADJUSTED WITHOUT DESTROYING AGREEMENTS THEMSELVES. THIS IS STILL OUR PREFERRED COURSE OF ACTION. ACCORDINGLY WE REQUEST ONCE AGAIN THAT EC AGREE TO FORMATION OF SEPARATE WORKING PARTY ON ORIGIN RULES.

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B. IF WE ARE FORCED TO RAISE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES OF PRINCIPLE AND LEGALITY WE WILL BEGIN IN GATT EXAMINATION OF EC/NORWAY AGREEMENT, SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 4. AT THAT MEETING, U.S. REP WILL REFER TO EARLIER COMPREHENSIVE U.S. STATEMENT ON EC/EFTA AGREEMENTS. HE WILL REFER TO BILATERAL EFFORTS WITH EC TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT TO PROPOSAL FOR WORKING PARTY ON ORIGIN RULES AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE ACCEPTED. HE WILL PROPOSE THAT

EC/ NORWAY WORKING PARTY SUSPEND FURTHER WORK AFTER FIRST MEETING PENDING RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE. IF NEW WORKING PARTY ON ORIGIN RULES IS ESTABLISHED, REPORT ON EC/NORWAY AGREEMENT CAN BE FINALIZED AND SENT TO COUNCIL. IF NEW WORKING PARTY IS NOT ESTABLISHED, U.S. WILL INSIST ON EXTENSIVE WORK ON ORIGIN RULE ISSUE IN SERIES OF MEETINGS OF WORKING PARTY ON EC/NORWAY AGREEMENT NEXT YEAR. MORE-OVER IF A NEW WORKING PARTY IS NOT ULTIMATELY ACCEPTABLE, U.S. WILL BE FORCED TO CONSIDER OTHER MEANS OF RAISING BASIC ISSUES.

C. EC REACTION TO ABOVE U.S. POSITION NEEDED SOONEST FOR FORMULATION OF INSTRUCTIONS TO U.S. REP FOR EC/NORWAY WORKING PARTY MEETING DECEMBER 4.

2. FOR OSLO: EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM GON OF SUBSTANCE OF U.S. APPROACH TO EC COMMISSION AND REPORT ANY REACTION.

3. OTHER POSTS: INFO ADDRESSEES ARE ACCREDITED EITHER TO EC/EFTA COUNTRIES OR TO COUNTRIES WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF EC/NORWAY WORKING PARTY. POSTS MAY USE THEIR DISCRETION IN INFORMING HOST GOVERNMENT OF OUR POSITION AS AN INDICATION OF THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THIS ISSUE.

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30 JUN 2005

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